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57-0301a

13 March 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: [ ] - Claim for Damages

1. Gates Lloyd and I talked to the Director about the [ ] claim. I thought that we might start with an offer of \$5,000 total and go up a little if they pressed hard. The Director was reluctant to give any leeway and authorized us only to offer \$5,000 flat settlement.

2. I talked with Mr. [ ] on 12 March and after observing the amenities got down to the figure of \$5,000. While Mr. [ ] was very polite and understanding on the difficulty of assessing the figure of a "morgue" such as [ ] had, he felt that [ ] would be very shocked by the small figure. I asked him if he could bring in any supporting evidence on how a dollar value could be fixed, and he said he would talk to one or two writers who had some familiarity with this problem. I said I also would ask a writer of my acquaintance now working for the Government if he could give me any information in this regard. I told Mr. [ ] that as soon as he had any additional information to let me know and I would be glad to go back to the Director if he had some proof of damages but that I could not in any way commit the Director to anything in excess of the \$5,000 offer.

LAWRENCE R. HOUSTON  
General Counsel

cc: ADD/S

FE (Mr. [ ])

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